

[English]

### Low Power Transmitter at Kankauli, Maharashtra

3082. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply given on November, 25, 1991 to Unstarred Question No. 484 and state:

(a) the details of the expenditure incurred originally in the Doordarshan budget for 1991-92;

(b) the expenditure, so far, incurred during the year so far;

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be completed and the expenditure involved on its completion; and

(d) the total number of villages along with the population expected to be covered?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS):

(a) An amount of Rs. 18.28 lakhs has been provided for in the Annual Budget of Doordarshan 1991-92 for the Low Power TV Transmitter project at Kankauli, Maharashtra.

(b) Whereas no expenditure has so far been incurred on the project, an amount of 18.28 lakhs is expected to be incurred by the end of March, 1992.

(c) As per the present indications, the transmitter at Kankauli is expected to be commissioned into service during 1993-94.

(d) On commissioning of the said transmitter, 315 villages and about 3 lakhs of population is expected to benefit by the TV service.

### Air Hostesses in Indian Airlines and Air India

3083. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of air hostesses working in Indian Airlines and Air India flight, in service, flights-wise;

(b) the number out of them who have crossed 4 years of age;

(c) whether there is any proposal to take back all those hostesses who are 40 years of age and above from inflight service; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The total number of air hostesses working in Air India and Indian Airlines as on date is as under:-

Air India - 1004

Indian Air  
lines - 882

(b) The number of air hostesses in Air India and Indian Airlines who have crossed 40 years of age is as under:-

Air India - 59

Indian Air-  
lines - 51

(c) and (d. Air hostesses in Indian Airlines can perform flying duties till the age of 58 years while in Air India, they can undertake flight duties upto the age of 45 years after which they are assigned ground duties. The Corporation has taken this

ous nature of duties on international flights.

### **Telephone Exchanges in Banaskantha, Gujarat**

3084. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Telephone exchanges : District Banaskantha, Gujarat, Particularly at Tharad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be set up?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The Government proposes to set up telephone exchanges in District Banaskantha, Gujarat, at places where a registered paid demand for a minimum of 1 applicants is available.

(ii) There are two stations, namely Tharad and Thara where Manual Telephone Exchanges are already working. These are planned to be replaced by automatic Electronic exchanges before December, 1994.

### **Gem Deposits in Eastern Orissa**

3085. SHRI SHIBU SOREN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey on the Gem deposits in Bolangir, Kalahandi, Phulbani and koraput districts of Orissa has been carried out in those areas;

(b) whether there is any proposal for setting up a Gem Mining unit in those areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that the large scale illegal trading of Gems and semi-precious stones is being carried out there; and

(e) the action taken/being taken to stop such activities there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) and (c). In Orissa UNDP assisted project titled "Development of Gemstone Resources of Orissa State" is currently under implementation. The project aims at delineation of gem-stone prospects of the State, optimum recovery through adoption of appropriate mining and processing techniques, establishment of a Modern Gem Testing Laboratory and upgradation of knowledge, skill and expertise in the related fields through training.

(d) Some illegal mining and trading of gems and semi-precious stones from these districts have been reported.

(e) The Orissa Minerals (Prevention of Theft and Other Unlawful Activities) Act, 1989 and the Rules thereunder have been enforced since May, 1990 in order to prevent clandestine activities in minerals including precious and semi-precious stones.

### **Post Offices, Sub-Post Offices, Telephone Exchanges and P.C.Os.**

3086. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Branch Post Offices/ Sub-Post Offices/Telephone Exchanges and P.C. Os. opened during the last 1991-92 in the different States and Union Territories;

(b) the number such offices opened till dated how long it will take to complete the